# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

March 22, 2013

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED: 7005 1820 0003 7453 7796

Mr. Ronald L. Rickaway, President Rickaway Energy, Corp. 205 Los Robles Drive Pleasanton, TX 78064

Re:

Administrative Order, Docket Number: CWA-06-2013-1733

Facility Number: TXU010970

Dear Mr. Rickaway:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (AO) issued to Rickaway Energy, Corp. for violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1251–1387. Violations were identified during inspections on September 11, 2012 and November 27, 2012, conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 (EPA), of your facilities located in Wilson County, Texas, designated as Facility Number TXU010970. The violation alleged is for the unauthorized discharge of a pollutant, specifically produced wastewater, to waters of the United States.

Effective upon receipt of this AO, you shall immediately comply with all provisions set forth in the enclosed AO. This AO also requires responses to certain information demands. The EPA is committed to ensuring compliance with the requirements of the CWA, and my staff will assist you in any way possible.

You may be eligible to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for your discharge as outlined in your Texas Railroad Commission permit. If you elect to obtain NPDES authorization for your discharge, you must contact EPA's NPDES Permits Section at 214-665-7523. If you are eligible for permit coverage, and you submit an application for NPDES authorization to discharge within this AO's seventy-five-day compliance period, EPA may revise this order to include a compliance schedule for this action.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Matt Rudolph, of my staff, at (214) 665-6434. For questions in regard to NPDES permitting, please contact Mr. Brent Larsen (6WQ-P) at (214) 665-7523.

Sincerely,

John Blevins

Director

Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division

Enclosure

# U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY - REGION 6 FINDINGS OF VIOLATION AND COMPLIANCE ORDER AND INFORMATION DEMAND

In the Matter of Rickaway Energy, Corp. (Respondent)
Docket No. CWA-06-2013-1733

## STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The following findings are made and Order issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), by Sections 308 and 309(a) of the Clean Water Act ("the Act"), 33 U.S.C. §§ 1318 and 1319(a). The Administrator delegated the authority to issue this Order to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 6 who further delegated such authority to the Director of the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division.

#### **FINDINGS**

- 1. Respondent, Rickaway Energy, Corp., is a "person," as defined by Section 502(5) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5).
- 2. At all times relevant to the violation alleged herein ("relevant time period"), Respondent operated oil field leases known as the Hierholzer Lease located at N29.033889, W98.300532; the Minnie Stewart Lease located at N29.254185, W97.953108; the M.C. Stroud Lease located at N29.251827, W97.957590; the Mrs. E. Wheeler Lease located at N29.247066, W97.963834; and the Hardin-Slaughter Lease located at N29.244757, W97.965953, all located in Wilson County, Texas ("facilities"). The Leases are designated as Facility Number TXU010970.
- 3. On September 11, 2012, an EPA inspector observed that pollutants, specifically produced wastewater, recently generated from oil production activities had been discharged from the Hierholzer Lease to "waters of the United States," as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.2. Pollutants were discharged to Borrego Creek. EPA previously issued an Administrative Order ("AO"), Docket Number CWA-06-2013-1707, on October 17, 2012, for this violation of the Act.. With the issuance of this AO, Docket Number CWA-06-2013-1733, EPA hereby closes out the previous AO, Docket Number CWA-06-2013-1707; however, the September 2011 violations contained therein are hereby incorporated by reference into AO Docket Number CWA-06-2013-1733.
- 4. On November 27, 2012, an EPA inspector observed that pollutants, specifically produced wastewater, recently generated from oil production activities, had been discharged from facilities, located on the four other aforementioned leases, to "waters of the United States," as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.2. Pollutants were discharged to a tributary of Clifton Branch Creek.
- 5. Pumps, pipes, hoses, flow lines, production wells, and associated devices located at the facility acted as "point sources," as defined by Section 502(14) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14).

- 6. At no time during the relevant time period did Respondent have National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit coverage under the Act, which authorized the discharge of a pollutant from the facility to waters of the United States.
- 7. During the relevant time period, it was unlawful under Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), for any person to discharge a pollutant from a point source to waters of the United States without a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.
- 8. On or about September 11, 2012 and November, 27, 2012, Respondent discharged or caused the discharge of pollutants from point sources within the facilities to waters of the United States without permit coverage under the Act, in violation of Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a).

# SECTION 309(a)(3) COMPLIANCE ORDER

Based on these findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 309(a)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a)(3), EPA orders that Respondent take the following actions upon receipt of this Order:

a. Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this order you shall cease all discharges of produced wastewater from the facilities to waters of the United States.

### **SECTION 308 INFORMATION DEMAND**

Based on the foregoing Findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 308 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318 Respondent is required to do the following:

- a. Within seventy-five (75) days of the effective date of this Order, you shall provide written certification to the EPA Region 6 that produced water discharges have ceased or that Respondent has applied to the NPDES Permits Branch for a wastewater discharge permit.
- b. Within seventy-five (75) days you shall submit to the EPA a copy of any effluent monitoring reports you have submitted to the Railroad Commission of Texas ("RRC") during the last 5 years as required by the RRC discharge permits No. 00786, No. 00821, and No. 00947.



# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

MAY 3 0 2013

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED: 7011 3500 0000 0359 9298

Mr. William A. Reiter, Jr., Owner Warrior Resources, Inc. P.O. Box 953
Mexia, TX 76667

Re:

Administrative Order, Docket Number: CWA-06-2013-1749

Facility Number: TXU010972

Dear Mr. Reiter:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (AO) issued to Warrior Resources, Inc. for violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251–1387. The violation was identified during a January 16, 2013, inspection conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6, of your oil field lease known as the Barina 135 Lease, located in Bastrop County, Texas and designated as Facility Number TXU010972. The violation alleged is for the unauthorized discharge of a pollutant, specifically produced wastewater, to waters of the United States.

Effective upon receipt of the AO, you shall immediately comply with all provisions set forth in the enclosed AO. The AO also requires responses to certain information demands. The EPA is committed to ensuring compliance with the requirements of the CWA, and my staff will assist you in any way possible.

You may be eligible to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for your discharge as outlined in your Texas Railroad Commission permit. If you elect to obtain NPDES authorization for your discharge, you must contact EPA's NPDES Permits Section at (214) 665-7523. If you are eligible for permit coverage and you submit an application for NPDES authorization to discharge within the AO's seventy-five-day compliance period, EPA may revise this AO to include a compliance schedule for this action.

If you have any questions, please contact Jack Arias, Ph.D., of my staff, at (214) 665-8164. For NPDES permit questions, please contact Mr. Brent Larsen (6WQ-P) at (214) 665-7523.

Sincerely

John Blevins

Director

Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division

# U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY - REGION 6 FINDINGS OF VIOLATION AND COMPLIANCE ORDER AND INFORMATION DEMAND

In the Matter of Warrior Resources, Inc. Docket No. CWA-06-2013-1749; Facility No. TXU010972

#### STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The following findings are made and Order issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), by Sections 308 and 309(a) of the Clean Water Act ("the Act"), 33 U.S.C. §§ 1318 and 1319(a). The Administrator delegated the authority to issue this Order to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 6 who further delegated such authority to the Director of the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division.

#### **FINDINGS**

- 1. Warrior Resources, Inc. ("Respondent") is a "person" as defined by Section 502(5) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5).
- 2. At all times relevant to the violation alleged herein ("relevant time period"), Respondent operated an oil field lease known as the Barina 135 lease located at N29.88962, W97.205312 in Bastrop County, Texas ("facility") and designated as Facility Number TXU010972.
- 3. On January 16, 2013, an EPA inspector observed that pollutants, specifically produced wastewater recently generated from oil production activities, had been discharged from the facility to a "water of the United States" as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.2. Pollutants were discharged to Buckners Creek, which is considered a "water of the United States." The inspector determined that water at the discharge point of entry (N29.88781, W97.20567) into the creek measured 500 parts-per-million Total Soluble Salts.
- 4. Pumps, pipes, hoses, flow lines, production wells, and associated devices located at the facility acted as "point sources" as defined by Section 502(14) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14).
- 5. At no time during the relevant time period did Respondent have National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit coverage under the Act which authorized the discharge of a pollutant from the facility to waters of the United States.
- 6. It is unlawful under Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), for any person to discharge a pollutant from a point source to waters of the United States without a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.

7. On or about January 16, 2013, Respondent discharged pollutants from point sources within the facility to waters of the United States without permit coverage under the Act, in violation of Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a).

## SECTION 309(a)(3) COMPLIANCE ORDER

Based on these findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 309(a)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a)(3), EPA orders that Respondent take the following action upon receipt of this Order:

a. Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this order, cease all discharges of produced wastewater from the facilities to waters of the United States.

## **SECTION 308 INFORMATION DEMAND**

Based on the foregoing Findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 308 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318 Respondent is required to do the following:

- a. Within seventy-five (75) days of the effective date of this Order, provide written certification to EPA Region 6 that produced water discharges have ceased or that Respondent has applied to the NPDES Permits Branch for a wastewater discharge permit.
- b. Within seventy-five (75) days, submit to EPA a copy of any effluent monitoring reports you have submitted to the Railroad Commission of Texas ("RRC") from the last five years as required by RRC discharge permit Number 00845.
- c. Any information or correspondence submitted by Respondent to EPA under this Order shall be addressed to the following:

Ms. Mary Simmons Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WC) EPA, Region 6 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202-2733

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Respondent may seek federal judicial review of the Order pursuant to Chapter 7 of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701–706. Section 706, which is set forth at <a href="http://uscode.house.gov/download/pls/05C7.txt">http://uscode.house.gov/download/pls/05C7.txt</a>, provides the scope of such review.

# THULED STATES TO THE PROTECTION

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

# MAY 2 8 2013

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED: 7011 3500 0000 0359 9311

Mr. Matthew Acock, Owner Acock Operating Limited 4201 FM 1960 West, Suite 245 Houston, TX 77068

Re:

Administrative Order, Docket Number: CWA-06-2013-1752

Facility Number: TXU010975

Dear Mr. Acock:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (AO) issued to Acock Operating Limited for violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251–1387. The violation was identified during a January 17, 2013, inspection conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 (EPA) of your oil field lease known as the Patteson lease, located in Gonzales County, Texas and designated as Facility Number TXU010975. The violation alleged is for the unauthorized discharge of a pollutant, specifically produced wastewater, to waters of the United States.

Effective upon receipt of this AO, you shall immediately comply with all provisions set forth in the enclosed AO. This AO also requires responses to certain information demands. The EPA is committed to ensuring compliance with the requirements of the CWA, and my staff will assist you in any way possible.

You may be eligible to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for your discharge as outlined in your Texas Railroad Commission permit. If you elect to obtain NPDES authorization for your discharge, you must contact EPA's NPDES Permits Section. If you are eligible for permit coverage and you submit an application for NPDES authorization to discharge within the AO's seventy-five-day compliance period, EPA may revise this order to include a compliance schedule for this action.

If you have any enforcement questions, please contact Jack Arias, Ph.D., of my staff, at (214) 665-6434. For NPDES permit questions, please contact Mr. Brent Larsen (6WQ-P) at (214) 665-7523.

Sincerely,

John Blevins

Director

Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division

Enclosure

# U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY - REGION 6 FINDINGS OF VIOLATION AND COMPLIANCE ORDER AND INFORMATION DEMAND

In the Matter of Acock Operating Limited Docket No. CWA-06-2013-1752; Facility No. TXU010975

## STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The following findings are made and Order issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Sections 308 and 309(a) of the Clean Water Act ("the Act"), 33 U.S.C. §§ 1318 and 1319(a). The Administrator delegated the authority to issue this Order to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 6 who further delegated such authority to the Director of the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division.

#### **FINDINGS**

- 1. Acock Operating Limited ("Respondent") is a "person" as defined by Section 502(5) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5).
- 2. At all times relevant to the violation alleged herein ("relevant time period"), Respondent operated an oil field lease known as the Patteson (Carrizo Field) lease located at N29.285851, W97.681501 in Gonzales County, Texas ("facility") and designated as Facility Number TXU010975.
- 3. On January 17, 2013, an EPA inspector observed that pollutants, specifically produced wastewater recently generated from oil production activities, had been discharged from the Patteson lease to a "water of the United States" as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.2. Pollutants were discharged to Little Elm Creek, which is considered a "water of the United States." The inspector determined that water at the discharge point of entry (N29.283503, W97.681288) into the creek was contaminated from produced wastewater discharges that measured 2,300 parts-per-million Total Soluble Salts.
- 4. Pumps, pipes, hoses, flow lines, production wells, and associated devices located at the facility acted as "point sources" as defined by Section 502(14) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14).
- 5. At no time during the relevant time period did Respondent have National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit coverage under the Act which authorized the discharge of a pollutant from the facility to waters of the United States.
- 6. It is unlawful under Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), for any person to discharge a pollutant from a point source to waters of the United States without a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.

7. On or about January 17, 2013, Respondent discharged or caused the discharge of pollutants from point sources within the facility to waters of the United States without permit coverage under the Act, in violation of Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a).

# SECTION 309(a)(3) COMPLIANCE ORDER

Based on these findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 309(a)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a)(3), EPA orders that Respondent take the following action upon receipt of this Order:

a. Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall cease all discharges of produced wastewater from the Patteson lease to waters of the United States.

#### SECTION 308 INFORMATION DEMAND

Based on the foregoing Findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 308 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318 Respondent is required to do the following:

- a. Within seventy-five (75) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall provide written certification to the EPA Region 6 that produced water discharges have ceased or that Respondent has applied to the NPDES Permits Branch for a wastewater discharge permit.
- b. Within seventy-five (75) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall submit to the EPA a copy of any effluent monitoring reports Respondent has submitted to the Railroad Commission of Texas ("RRC") during the last five years as required by the RRC discharge permit No. 00895.
- c. Any information or correspondence submitted by Respondent to EPA under this Order shall be addressed to the following:

Ms. Mary Simmons
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WR)
EPA, Region 6
1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

APR 2 4 2013

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED: 7010 0780 0000 7366 5125

Mr. Robert M. Shellman, President MCA Petroleum Corporation P.O. Box 1287 San Marcos, TX 78667-1287

Re:

Administrative Order, Docket Number: CWA-06-2013-1751

Facility Number: TXU010974

Dear Mr. Shellman:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (AO) issued to MCA Petroleum Corporation for violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq. The violation was identified during a January 16, 2013, inspection conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 (EPA), of your oil field facility known as the Naumann et al lease, located in Bastrop County, Texas, designated as Facility Number TXU010974. The violation alleged is for the unauthorized discharge of a pollutant, specifically produced wastewater, to waters of the United States.

Effective upon receipt of this AO, you shall immediately comply with all provisions set forth in the enclosed AO. This AO also requires responses to certain information demands. The EPA is committed to ensuring compliance with the requirements of the CWA, and my staff will assist you in any way possible.

You may be eligible to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for your discharge as outlined in your Texas Railroad Commission permit. If you elect to obtain NPDES authorization for your discharge, you must contact EPA's NPDES Permits Section. If you are eligible for permit coverage, and you submit an application for NPDES authorization to discharge within this AO's seventy-five-day compliance period, EPA may revise this order to include a compliance schedule for this action.

If you have any enforcement questions, please contact Jack Arias, Ph.D., of my staff, at (214) 665-8164. For NPDES permit questions, please contact Mr. Brent Larsen (6WQ-P) at (214) 665-7523.

Sincerely,

John Blevins

Director

Compliance Assurance and

**Enforcement Division** 

# U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY - REGION 6 FINDINGS OF VIOLATION AND COMPLIANCE ORDER AND INFORMATION DEMAND

In the Matter of MCA Petroleum Corporation (Respondent) Docket No. CWA-06-2013-1751; Facility No. TXU010974

#### STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The following findings are made and Order issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), by Sections 308 and 309(a) of the Clean Water Act ("the Act"), 33 U.S.C. §§ 1318 and 1319(a). The Administrator has delegated the authority to issue this Order to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 6 who further delegated such authority to the Director of the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division.

#### **FINDINGS**

- 1. MCA Petroleum Corporation ("Respondent"), is a "person," as defined by Section 502(5) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5).
- 2. At all times relevant to the violation alleged herein ("relevant time period"), Respondent operated an oil field lease known as the Naumann et al lease located at N29.88828, W97.20838 in Bastrop County, Texas ("facility"), designated as Facility Number TXU010974.
- 3. On January 16, 2013, an EPA inspector observed that pollutants, specifically produced wastewater, recently generated from oil production activities, had been discharged from the Naumann et al lease to a "water of the United States", as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.2. Pollutants were discharged to Butchers Creek, which is considered a "water of the United States". The inspector determined that water at the discharge point of entry (N29.88784, W97.20820) into the creek was contaminated from produced wastewater discharges that measured 400 parts-per-million Total Soluble Salts. The EPA inspector also observed an oil sheen on the surface of the creek.
- 4. Pumps, pipes, hoses, flow lines, production wells, and associated devices located at the facility acted as "point sources," as defined by Section 502(14) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14).
- 5. At no time during the relevant time period did Respondent have National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit coverage under the Act which authorized the discharge of a pollutant from the facility to waters of the United States.
- 6. During the relevant time period, it was unlawful under Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), for any person to discharge a pollutant from a point source to waters of the United States without a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.

7. On or about January 16, 2013, the facility discharged or caused the discharge of pollutants from point sources within the facility to waters of the United States without permit coverage under the Act, in violation of Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a).

# SECTION 309(a)(3) COMPLIANCE ORDER

Based on these findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 309(a)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a)(3), EPA orders that Respondent take the following actions upon receipt of this Order:

a. Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall cease all discharges of produced wastewater from the facilities to waters of the United States.

#### **SECTION 308 INFORMATION DEMAND**

Based on the foregoing Findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 308 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318, Respondent is required to do the following:

- a. Within seventy-five (75) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall provide written certification to the EPA Region 6 that produced water discharges have ceased or that Respondent has applied to the NPDES Permits Branch for a wastewater discharge permit.
- b. Within seventy-five (75) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall submit to the EPA a copy of any effluent monitoring reports Respondent has submitted to the Railroad Commission of Texas ("RRC") during the last 5 years as required by the RRC discharge permit No. 00895.
- c. Any information or correspondence submitted by Respondent to EPA under this Order shall be addressed to the following:

Ms. Mary Simmons Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WR) EPA, Region 6 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202-2733

# GENERAL PROVISIONS

Respondent may seek federal judicial review of the Order pursuant to Chapter 7 of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701-706. Section 706, which is set forth at <a href="http://uscode.house.gov/download/pls/05C7.txt">http://uscode.house.gov/download/pls/05C7.txt</a>, provides the scope of such review.

# JANUAR PROTECTOR

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

JUN 04 2013

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED: 7011 3500 0000 0359 9281

Mr. William A. Reiter, Jr., Owner Warrior Resources, Inc. P.O. Box 953 Mexia, TX 76667

Re:

Administrative Order, Docket Number: CWA-06-2013-1750

Facility Number: TXU010973

Dear Mr. Reiter:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (AO) issued to Warrior Resources, Inc., for violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1251–1387. The violation was identified during a January 16, 2013, inspection conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 (EPA) of your oil field lease known as the Valek lease, located in Bastrop County, Texas and designated as Facility Number TXU010973. The violation alleged is for the unauthorized discharge of a pollutant, specifically produced wastewater, to waters of the United States.

Effective upon receipt of this AO, you shall immediately comply with all provisions set forth in the enclosed AO. This AO also requires responses to certain information demands. The EPA is committed to ensuring compliance with the requirements of the CWA, and my staff will assist you in any way possible.

You may be eligible to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for your discharge as outlined in your Texas Railroad Commission permit. If you elect to obtain NPDES authorization for your discharge, you must contact EPA's NPDES Permits Section at (214) 665-7523. If you are eligible for permit coverage, and you submit an application for NPDES authorization to discharge within this AO's seventy-five-day compliance period, EPA may revise this AO to include a compliance schedule for this action.

If you have any questions, please contact Jack Arias, Ph.D., of my staff, at (214) 665-8164. For NPDES permit questions, please contact Mr. Brent Larsen (6WQ-P) at (214) 665-7523.

Sincerely,

John Blevins Director

Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division

Enclosure

# U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY - REGION 6 FINDINGS OF VIOLATION AND COMPLIANCE ORDER AND INFORMATION DEMAND

In the Matter of: Warrior Resources, Inc. Docket No. CWA-06-2013-1750; Facility No. TXU010973

#### STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The following findings are made and Order issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), by Sections 308 and 309(a) of the Clean Water Act ("the Act"), 33 U.S.C. §§ 1318 and 1319(a). The Administrator delegated the authority to issue this Order to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 6 who further delegated such authority to the Director of the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division.

#### **FINDINGS**

- 1. Warrior Resources, Inc. ("Respondent") is a "person" as defined by Section 502(5) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5).
- 2. At all times relevant to the violation alleged herein ("relevant time period"), Respondent operated an oil field lease known as the Valek lease located at N29.88638, W97.20935 in Bastrop County, Texas ("facility"), and designated as Facility Number TXU010973.
- 3. On January 16, 2013, an EPA inspector observed that pollutants, specifically produced wastewater recently generated from oil production activities, had been discharged from the facility to a "water of the United States" as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.2. Pollutants were discharged to Buckners Creek, which is considered a "water of the United States." The inspector determined that water at the discharge point of entry (N29.887645, W97.208525) into the creek measured 500 parts-per-million Total Soluble Salts. The EPA inspector also observed an oil sheen on the surface of the creek.
- 4. Pumps, pipes, hoses, flow lines, production wells, and associated devices located at the facility acted as "point sources" as defined by Section 502(14) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14).
- 5. At no time during the relevant time period did Respondent have National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit coverage under the Act which authorized the discharge of a pollutant from the facility to waters of the United States.
- 6. It is unlawful under Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), for any person to discharge a pollutant from a point source to waters of the United States without a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.

7. On or about January 16, 2013, Respondent discharged pollutants from point sources within the facility to waters of the United States without permit coverage under the Act, in violation of Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a).

## SECTION 309(a)(3) COMPLIANCE ORDER

Based on these findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 309(a)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a)(3), EPA orders that Respondent take the following action upon receipt of this Order:

a. Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this order, cease all discharges of produced wastewater from the facilities to waters of the United States.

## **SECTION 308 INFORMATION DEMAND**

Based on the foregoing Findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 308 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318 Respondent is required to do the following:

- a. Within seventy-five (75) days of the effective date of this Order, provide written certification to EPA Region 6 that produced water discharges have ceased or that Respondent has applied to the NPDES Permits Branch for a wastewater discharge permit.
- b. Submit to EPA any effluent monitoring reports you have submitted to the Railroad Commission of Texas ("RRC") from the last five (5) years as required by RRC discharge permit Number 00944.
- c. Any information or correspondence submitted by Respondent to EPA under this Order shall be addressed to the following:

Ms. Mary Simmons Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WR) EPA, Region 6 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202-2733

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Respondent may seek federal judicial review of the Order pursuant to Chapter 7 of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701–706. Section 706, which is set forth at <a href="http://uscode.house.gov/download/pls/05C7.txt">http://uscode.house.gov/download/pls/05C7.txt</a>, provides the scope of such review.